

REMARKS

This Amendment seeks to place this application in condition for allowance. In the telephone interview on November 21, 2000, the Examiner expressed a concern that claim 151 could be interpreted in such a way as to read on Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 60-55459 (hereinafter "the '459 application"). While the Examiner recognized that memory 1 of the '459 application does not receive block size information, the Examiner expressed concern that the memory control device 2 together with memory 1 could be considered as the "memory device" of claim 151. While Applicants do not agree with this point of view, nevertheless Applicants have amended claim 151 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention to recite a method of controlling a memory device by a memory controller. Amended claim 151 also requires, among other things, that the first block size information is provided by the memory controller. Thus, both the memory controller and the memory device are expressly set forth in claim 151.

Applicants submit that all of the claims present patentable subject matter which definitely set forth the novel and unobvious features of Applicants' invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all of the claims.

It is noted that should a telephone interview expedite the prosecution in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact Neil Steinberg at 650-944-7772.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Steinberg', written over a horizontal line.

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